**Retail Outlets of Petroleum Products in Andhra Pradesh**

4213. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of retail outlets of petroleum products in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) the number of retail outlets proposed to be opened in Andhra Pradesh in 2000-2001, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY) : (a) As on 1-10-1999 there were 1319 MS/HSD retail outlet dealerships in operation in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) In addition to the locations pending from previous Marketing Plans 88 MS/HSD retail dealerships have been included in the Retail Outlet Marketing Plan 1996-98 for Andhra Pradesh. Location included in the Marketing Plan are advertised by the Oil Companies from time to time. Selection is made by the Dealer Selection Boards on merit through interview. It generally takes about 6-12 months for commissioning of the dealerships from the date of interview.

**Shortage of LPG in Uttar Pradesh**

4214. PROF. M. M. AGARWAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of LPG supplied in the various districts of Uttar Pradesh as compared to demand thereof during the last three years;

(b) whether there is an acute shortage of LPG in Uttar Pradesh;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY) : (a) The sale of LPG by the PSU Oil Companies in the State of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years is as under:—

| Year | LPG Sale (Fig. in TMT) |
|---|---|
| 1996-97 | 506.26 |
| 1997-98 | 575.61 |
| 1998-99 | 648.74 |

(b) to (d) At present, the demand of LPG customers enrolled with the PSU Oil Companies in the State of Uttar Pradesh, is being met, by and large, in full.

**Waiting List for LPG Connection** in **Uttar Pradesh**

4215. PROF M. M. AGARWAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons on the waiting list for LPG connection in Uttar Pradesh, as on 31st March, 2000, district-wise;

(b) the time by when the above list is likely to be cleared; and

(c) the number of LPG connections proposed to be released to thepeople of Uttar Pradesh during the year 2000-2001, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY) : (a) The waiting list registered with LPG distributors of the PSU Oil Companies as on 31st March, 2000 in the state of Uttar Pradesh, is about 8.53 lakhs

(b) and (c) New LPG connections are released in a phased manner throughout the country depending on the LPG availability, waiting list, slack available with the distributors and their viability. However, the Government has a plan to release around 1 crore LPG connections during the year 2000 to clear all waiting list registered with the distributors of PSU Oil Companies as on 1-12-1999.

**Quota of Kerosene allocated to Private Sector Companies**

4216. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have been allocating kerosene to some of the private sector companies as an industrial fuel,

(b) if so, the details of private sector companies to which kerosene has been allotted during the last three years and the quantum thereof; and

(c) to what extent the private sector companies have properly utilised the quota of kerosene allotted to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) to (c) Kerosene is an allocated product and annual allocation is made by Central Government to States/